



# United States Department of the Interior

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park  
P. O. Box 52  
Hawai'i National Park, HI 96718-0052  
808/985-6000  
808/967-8186 (FAX)

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## Memorandum

To: Files

From: Superintendent, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

Subject: Closure of Area at Eruption Site

The following memorandum modifies the current area closure at the eruption site. Several skylights have recently opened up on the pali creating a situation which is attracting visitors and posing a very hazardous situation.

The area currently open to the public is comprised of:

- 1) The Steam Plume Viewing Area route, marked with reflectors. This route is approximately ¼ mile long and starts from the end of the paved road and leads to the coastline where visitors may view the coastline and Lae'apuki ocean entry from a distance.
- 2) A route to beacon #3 that is marked with reflectors for the first 1/3 mile, and with orange stanchions for 1 mile further. This route starts from the end of the paved road and leads approximately 1-1/3 miles east to beacon #3 at the rope boundary. This boundary marks the western edge of the closed area and is marked with rope and then with "Area Closed" signs going north almost to the base of the pali. The boundary continues north beyond the northern-most sign to the base of the pali. The closed area encompasses the coastal plain to the east of this boundary. The closed area also includes the entire pali.

The Kamoamo and Lae'apuki benches and the active lava tube system contain huge cracks and unmarked thin-roofed cavities which make the area extremely dangerous to explore.

Failure to abide by this closure is a violation of 36 CFR 1.5 and may result in a violation notice issued and a possible mandatory court appearance.

Please direct any questions to Chief Ranger Talmadge Magno at 808/985-6030.

/s/ Leanette Yoshida  
(signed original on file)  
(for)  
Cindy Orlando